



Georgia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday
March 22,
2023

COMMITTEE DAY REPORT

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

- The House will reconvene for its 38th Legislative Day on Thursday, March 23 at 10:00 a.m.
- The Rules Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m.
- 14 bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

Committee Actions

Bills passing committees are reported to the Clerk's Office and are placed on the General Calendar.

Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

SB 132 Agriculture; the acquisition of possessory interest in certain land by certain nonresident aliens; prohibit

Bill Summary: SB 132 creates O.C.G.A. 2-1-7 to prohibit nonresident aliens who are subjects of foreign governments designated as adversaries by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce from having a possessory interest in agricultural land or land within a 25 mile-radius of any military base, military installation, or military airport. If a nonresident alien acquires a prohibited possessory interest through inheritance or the collection of a debt, the possessory interest must be disposed of within one year if acquired through inheritance and three years if acquired through debt collection.

Authored By: Sen. Brandon Beach (21st)
House Committee: Agriculture & Consumer Affairs

Committee Action: 03-22-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Economic Development & Tourism Committee

HR 488 House Rural Development Council; reauthorize

Bill Summary: HR 488 reauthorizes the House Rural Development Council.

Authored By: Rep. Steven Meeks (178th)
House Committee: Economic Development & Tourism

Committee Action: 03-22-2023 Do Pass

Governmental Affairs Committee

SB 145 "Landscape Equipment and Agricultural Fairness (LEAF) Act"; enact

Bill Summary: SB 145 provides guidelines and requirements for municipal deannexations. The bill prohibits deannexations that result in the formation of unincorporated islands or non-contiguous areas within the municipality.

The bill establishes the 'Landscape Equipment and Agricultural Fairness (LEAF) Act' which prohibits local prohibitions or regulations that distinguish or create differing standards for gasoline-powered leaf blowers from any other gasoline-powered, electric, or other type of leaf blower.

The bill makes clarifying changes to the 'Zoning Procedures Law'.

The bill creates the 'Commercial Property Assessed Conservation, Energy, and Resiliency Development Authorities Law'. The act provides for the establishment of commercial property assessed conservation, energy, and resiliency development authorities within each county and municipal corporation in the state.

The authority in each county or municipality cannot exercise any powers until the governing body of the county or municipality declares that there is a need for such an authority. The act provides guidelines for the membership and governance of the board of directors that must be established for each authority. The purpose of the authorities is to facilitate local businesses in receiving low-cost, long-term financing for specified, qualified improvements including energy efficiency, water conservation, renewable energy, and resiliency improvements.

The bill prohibits governmental entities from adopting any policy that restricts the connection or reconnection of any utility service or sales of certain fuels based on the type of source of energy or fuel delivered or the appliance used by the customer.

The bill increases the limit on the amount of investments an electric membership corporation can make or maintain in a gas affiliate from 15 to 30 percent of its net utility plant.

Authored By: Sen. Shawn Still (48th)
House Governmental Affairs
Committee:

Committee 03-22-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Higher Education Committee

SB 112 "Workforce EXCEleration Act"; enact

Bill Summary: SB 112 creates the 'Workforce EXCEleration Act' which provides for a pilot program to establish the High School Diploma Program for Adult Learners. The program will be facilitated by the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia. The pilot program must include no more than three program locations in the state and will be automatically repealed on June 30, 2028.

Authored By: Sen. Jason Anavitarte (31st)
House Higher Education
Committee:

Committee 03-22-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 137 Tuition Equalization Grants at Private Colleges and Universities; definition of approved school; revise

Bill Summary: SB 137 allows eligible institutions that have been located in this state since on or before January 1, 2021, to qualify to receive tuition equalization grant funds.

The bill expands tuition equalization grant eligibility to include higher education institutions which offer baccalaureate programs in nursing, have a current physical presence in Georgia for at least five years, have received accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, and have accreditation from either the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or a regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

These institutions must also have a four-year average passage rate of at least 85 percent for the National Council Licensure Examination and admit students who have a high school diploma or equivalency, or a degree from an accredited postsecondary institution. Such institutions are only

considered as approved institutions for students who enroll on or before July 1, 2025.

Authorized By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd)
House Committee: Higher Education

Committee Action: 03-22-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

HB 591 DeKalb County; increase income cap on homestead exemption for citizens age 65 or older meeting certain income requirements; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 591 increases the net household income cap from \$15,000 to \$37,500 of a homestead exemption from DeKalb County ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$14,000 for residents who are disabled or 65 years of age or older whose household net income does not exceed \$15,000.

Authorized By: Rep. Becky Evans (89th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action: 03-22-2023 Do Pass

HB 593 DeKalb County; increase income cap on homestead exemption for citizens 62 years or older meeting certain income requirements; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 593 increases the net household income cap from \$16,000 to \$40,000 of a homestead exemption from DeKalb County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$20,000 for residents who are disabled or 62 years of age or older whose household net income does not exceed \$16,000.

Authorized By: Rep. Becky Evans (89th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action: 03-22-2023 Do Pass

HB 594 DeKalb County; increase income cap on homestead exemption for citizens 65 years or older meeting certain income requirements; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 594 increases the net household income cap from \$15,000 to \$37,500 of a homestead exemption from DeKalb County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$14,000 for residents who are disabled or 65 years of age or older whose household net income does not exceed \$15,000.

Authorized By: Rep. Becky Evans (89th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action: 03-22-2023 Do Pass

HB 678 Clayton County; Board of Commissioners; provide code of ethics; establish board of ethics

Bill Summary: HB 678 provides a code of ethics and establishes a board of ethics for Clayton County.

Authorized By: Rep. Sandra Scott (76th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action: 03-22-2023 Do Pass

HB 711 Gwinnett County; ad valorem tax; increase homestead exemption to \$8,000.00

Bill Summary: HB 711 increases a homestead exemption from Gwinnett County school district ad valorem taxes, except taxes levied to relieve bonded indebtedness, for all residents from \$4,000 to \$8,000.

Authorized By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action: 03-22-2023 Do Pass

HB 717 Forsyth County; ad valorem tax for educational purposes; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 717 provides a homestead exemption from Forsyth County School District ad valorem taxes through tax year 2035.

Authorized By: Rep. Carter Barrett (24th)

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action:

03-22-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 728 Webster County; Board of Commissioners; clarify governing authority is the Unified Government of Webster County

Bill Summary: HB 728 repeals an act to create a board of commissioners of Webster County.

Authorized By: Rep. Mike Cheokas (151st)

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action:

03-22-2023 Do Pass

HB 729 Brookhaven , City of; DeKalb County; modify amount of base year homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 729 modifies a homestead exemption from City of Brookhaven ad valorem taxes in the amount of 75 percent of the value of the assessed homestead.

Authorized By: Rep. Karen Lupton (83rd)

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action:

03-22-2023 Do Pass

HB 734 Preston, City of; clarify that the territory formerly included within the boundaries of the city is subject to governance by the Unified Government of Webster County

Bill Summary: HB 734 repeals an act providing a new city charter for the City of Preston.

Authorized By: Rep. Mike Cheokas (151st)

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action:

03-22-2023 Do Pass

HB 737 Commission of the Unified Government of Webster County; readopt and revise laws

Bill Summary: HB 737 readopts the Commission of the Unified Government of Webster County, and the cities of Preston and Weston.

Authorized By: Rep. Mike Cheokas (151st)

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action:

03-22-2023 Do Pass

HB 743 Hart County; Board of Education; change description of districts

Bill Summary: HB 743 changes the board of education districts of Hart County.

Authorized By: Rep. Alan Powell (33rd)

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action:

03-22-2023 Do Pass

HB 744 Hart County; Board of Commissioners; change description of districts

Bill Summary: HB 744 changes the board of commissioner districts of Hart County.

Authorized By: Rep. Alan Powell (33rd)

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

Committee Action:

03-22-2023 Do Pass

HB 748 Gwinnett County; ad valorem tax; additional homestead exemption of \$2000.00 for certain public service employees

Bill Summary: HB 748 provides a homestead exemption from Gwinnett County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$2,000 for residents who are certain public service employees.

Authorized By:	Rep. Matt Reeves (99th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 749 Haralson County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee

Bill Summary: HB 749 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Haralson County.

Authorized By:	Rep. Tyler Smith (18th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 750 City of Watkinsville Public Facilities Authority; create

Bill Summary: HB 750 creates the City of Watkinsville Public Facilities Authority.

Authorized By:	Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 751 Cohutta, City of; ad valorem tax; municipal purposes; provide new homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 751 provides a homestead exemption from City of Cohutta ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$60,000 for residents who are 65 years of age or older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.

Authorized By:	Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 752 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; repeal a homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 752 repeals a homestead exemption from Oconee County ad valorem taxes.

Authorized By:	Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 753 Whitfield County; ad valorem tax for educational purposes; revise homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 753 increases a homestead exemption from Whitfield County School District ad valorem taxes for residents who are 70 years of age and older from \$150,000 to \$250,000.

Authorized By:	Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 754 Whitfield County; ad valorem tax; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 754 provides a homestead exemption from Whitfield County ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$250,000 for residents who are 70 years of age and older.

Authorized By:	Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 755 Tunnel Hill, City of; ad valorem tax; municipal purposes; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 755 provides a homestead exemption from City of Tunnel Hill ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$100,000 for residents who are 70 years of age and older.

Authorized By:	Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 756 Dalton, City of; ad valorem tax; increase income cap

Bill Summary: HB 756 increases a homestead exemption from City of Dalton ad valorem taxes from \$75,000 to \$150,000 for residents who are 65 years of age and older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.

Authorized By:	Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 758 Dalton, City of; ad valorem tax; increase income cap and homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 758 increases a homestead exemption from City of Dalton ad valorem taxes from \$75,000 to \$150,000 for residents who are 65 years of age or older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.

Authorized By:	Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 759 Peachtree City, City of; annex certain properties

Bill Summary: HB 759 annexes certain properties into Peachtree City.

Authorized By:	Rep. Josh Bonner (73rd)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 760 Tyrone, Town of; Fayette County; deannex certain properties

Bill Summary: HB 760 deannexes certain property from the Town of Tyrone to Fayette County.

Authorized By:	Rep. Josh Bonner (73rd)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 761 Tunnel Hill, City of; ad valorem tax; provide new homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 761 provides a homestead exemption from City of Tunnel Hill ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$60,000 for residents who are 65 years of age and older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.

Authorized By:	Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 762 Dalton, City of; ad valorem tax; increase homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 762 increases a homestead exemption from City of Dalton independent School District ad valorem taxes from \$150,000 to \$250,000 for residents who are 70 years of age and older.

Authorized By:	Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 763 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; county purposes; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 763 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$10,000 for residents who are 75 years of age and older.

Authorized By:	Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 764 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; county purposes; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 764 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County ad valorem taxes in an amount equal to the assessed value of a homestead for residents who are 65 years of age or older.

Authorized By:	Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 765 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; county purposes; repeal homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 765 repeals a homestead exemption from Oconee County ad valorem taxes.

Authorized By:	Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 766 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; educational purposes; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 766 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$3,000 and an automatic increase to \$8,000 on January 1, 2035.

Authorized By:	Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 767 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; educational purposes; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 767 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County School District ad valorem taxes in an amount equal to the value of the assessed homestead for residents who are 65 years of age and older.

Authorized By:	Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 768 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; close certain homestead exemption to new applicants

Bill Summary: HB 768 closes a homestead exemption for Oconee County to new applicants.

Authorized By:	Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 769 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; county purposes; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 769 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$3,000 and an automatic increase to \$8,000 on January 1, 2035.

Authorized By:	Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 770 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; educational purposes; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 770 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County school district ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$10,000 for residents who are 75 years of age and older.

Authorized By:	Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st)	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Action:	
Committee:	Local		

HB 771 Cohutta, City of; ad valorem tax; provide new homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 771 provides a homestead exemption for the City of Cohutta ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$100,000 for residents who are 70 years of age and older.

Authorized By:	Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th)	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Action:	
Committee:	Local		

HB 772 Bacon County; State Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee

Bill Summary: HB 772 authorizes a technology fee by the state court of Bacon County.

Authorized By:	Rep. Steven Meeks (178th)	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Action:	
Committee:	Local		

HB 773 Ranger, Town of; Gordon County; provide new charter

Bill Summary: HB 773 repeals the city charter for the Town of Ranger.

Authorized By:	Rep. Matt Barton (5th)	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Action:	
Committee:	Local		

HB 776 Forsyth County; Board of Registrations and Elections; start and end date of member terms; revise provisions

Bill Summary: HB 776 revises the board of registrations and elections of Forsyth County.

Authorized By:	Rep. Carter Barrett (24th)	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Action:	
Committee:	Local		

HB 777 Gwinnett County; Board of Commissioners; provide compensation of chairperson

Bill Summary: HB 777 revises the compensation for the chairperson of the board of commissioners of Gwinnett County.

Authorized By:	Rep. Dewey McClain (109th)	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Action:	
Committee:	Local		

HB 778 Glynn County; State Court; change compensation of solicitor general

Bill Summary: HB 778 revises the position of solicitor general of the state court of Glynn County.

Authorized By:	Rep. Rick Townsend (179th)	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Action:	
Committee:	Local		

HB 779 Paulding County; Board of Education; filling vacancies; revise provisions

Bill Summary: HB 779 revises filling vacancies of the board of education for Paulding County.

Authorized By:	Rep. Martin Momtahan (17th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 780 Brooks County Public Facilities Authority; create

Bill Summary: HB 780 creates the Brooks County Public Facilities Authority.

Authorized By:	Rep. John LaHood (175th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 781 Henry County Building and Facilities Authority; create

Bill Summary: HB 781 creates the Henry County Building and Facilities Authority.

Authorized By:	Rep. El-Mahdi Holly (116th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 782 Dillard, City of; eliminate one council post

Bill Summary: HB 782 eliminates one council post from the City of Dillard.

Authorized By:	Rep. Victor Anderson (10th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 783 Moreland, Town of; Recorder's Court; repeal provisions

Bill Summary: HB 783 repeals the Recorder's Court and establishes the Municipal Court of the Town of Moreland.

Authorized By:	Rep. David Jenkins (136th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 784 Henry County Airport Authority; create

Bill Summary: HB 784 creates the Henry County Airport Authority.

Authorized By:	Rep. El-Mahdi Holly (116th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 785 Greene County; creation of one or more community improvement districts; provide

Bill Summary: HB 785 creates one or more community improvement districts in Greene County.

Authorized By:	Rep. Trey Rhodes (124th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

HB 786 Dalton, City of; ad valorem tax; municipal purposes; increase homestead exemption

Bill Summary: HB 786 increases a homestead exemption from City of Dalton ad valorem taxes from \$150,000 to \$250,000 for residents who are 70 years of age or older.

Authorized By:	Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

- HB 787 Whitfield County; School District; increase homestead exemption amount and income ceiling**
Bill Summary: HB 787 increases a homestead exemption from Whitfield County school district ad valorem taxes from \$30,000 to 150,000 for residents who are 65 years of age and older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.
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| Authorized By: | Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) | | |
| House | Intragovernmental Coordination - | Committee | 03-22-2023 Do Pass |
| Committee: | Local | Action: | |
- HB 788 Blackshear, City of; city council; decrease size to five members**
Bill Summary: HB 788 revises the city council of the City of Blackshear.
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| Authorized By: | Rep. Steven Meeks (178th) | | |
| House | Intragovernmental Coordination - | Committee | 03-22-2023 Do Pass |
| Committee: | Local | Action: | |
- HB 789 Whitfield County; ad valorem tax; county purposes; provide homestead exemption**
Bill Summary: HB 789 provides a homestead exemption from Whitfield County ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$150,000 for residents are 65 years of age and older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.
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| Authorized By: | Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) | | |
| House | Intragovernmental Coordination - | Committee | 03-22-2023 Do Pass |
| Committee: | Local | Action: | |
- HB 790 Suwanee, City of; change corporate limits**
Bill Summary: HB 790 changes the corporate limits of the City of Suwanee.
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| Authorized By: | Rep. Matt Reeves (99th) | | |
| House | Intragovernmental Coordination - | Committee | 03-22-2023 Do Pass |
| Committee: | Local | Action: | |
- HB 791 Oconee County; ad valorem tax for educational purposes; repeal a homestead exemption**
Bill Summary: HB 791 repeals a homestead exemption from Oconee County School District ad valorem taxes.
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| Authorized By: | Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) | | |
| House | Intragovernmental Coordination - | Committee | 03-22-2023 Do Pass |
| Committee: | Local | Action: | |
- HB 792 Atlanta, City of; Board of Education; qualifications for membership; remove certain limitations**
Bill Summary: HB 792 revises the qualifications for the board of education of the City of Atlanta.
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| Authorized By: | Rep. Park Cannon (58th) | | |
| House | Intragovernmental Coordination - | Committee | 03-22-2023 Do Pass |
| Committee: | Local | Action: | |
- HB 800 Fulton Technology and Energy Authority Act; enact**
Bill Summary: HB 800 revises the Fulton Technology and Energy Enhancement Authority of Fulton County.
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| Authorized By: | Rep. Mesha Mainor (56th) | | |
| House | Intragovernmental Coordination - | Committee | 03-22-2023 Do Pass |
| Committee: | Local | Action: | |

HB 802 Morganton, City of; provide new charter

Bill Summary: HB 802 provides a new charter for the City of Morganton.

Authorized By:	Rep. Johnny Chastain (7th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

SB 289 City of Hampton; ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes; homestead exemption; provide

Bill Summary: SB 289 provides a homestead exemption from City of Hampton ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$50,000 for residents who are both under 65 years of age and totally disabled.

Authorized By:	Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

SB 290 City of Hampton; ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes; homestead exemption; provide

Bill Summary: SB 290 provides a homestead exemption from City of Hampton ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$15,000.

Authorized By:	Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

Judiciary Non-Civil Committee**SB 31 Prosecuting Attorneys; the reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Attorney General in prosecuting a criminal case or cases due to the failure of a district attorney to prosecute such criminal case or cases; provide**

Bill Summary: SB 31 requires a locality to reimburse the attorney general and the Department of Law, upon request by the department, when a locality's district attorney refuses to prosecute a criminal case or cases that the attorney general and Department of Law have jurisdiction to prosecute the case, which they do. Requests must be made by motion within 15 days of the plea or verdict of the underlying case, and the court must hold a hearing within 15 days of that filing to determine whether the district attorney failed to perform their official duties. If the court finds for the attorney general and Department of Law, then it will award all reasonable expenses and costs to the department.

Authorized By:	Sen. Brandon Beach (21st)		
House	Judiciary Non-Civil	Committee	03-22-2023 Do Pass
Committee:		Action:	

SB 36 Pimping and Pandering; penalty provisions; increase

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 36 makes the crimes of pimping and pandering penalized by a felony with one to 10 years of imprisonment. A person who commits a second or subsequent offense of pimping, or who commits a second or subsequent offense of pandering, will be penalized by a felony, with imprisonment of one to 10 years, and a mandatory minimum of one year. The court can depart from either crimes' mandatory minimum if it deems in its discretion that the sentence is not in the interest of justice, although the court must state its findings on the record when doing so. Multiple Code sections are also revised to broaden the eligibility for vacating of sentences when a victim of human trafficking commits a crime while trafficked but is not technically convicted since they were sentenced as a felony first offender.

The bill adds a provision that makes a person guilty of a misdemeanor when they bring a weapon or long gun while on the property of the Georgia World Congress Center, or on the property of a locality during a private event involving a gated entry and ticketing, and on which alcohol is licensed to be sold. This is limited to three consecutive days, and it only applies when the government and the private party have contractually agreed that the private entity will indemnify the government for acts

occurring on the property during the events. This provision may not be implemented more than two times in a calendar year.

The crime of aggravated assault is modified to include when someone immediately exits a vehicle and discharges a firearm at a person, an occupied motor vehicle, or an occupied building. The crime of criminal damage to property in the first degree is modified to include when someone knowingly and without justification causes damage to a building by discharging a firearm while inside a vehicle or after immediately exiting a motor vehicle. This also increases the penalty for second or subsequent violations to imprisonment of between five and 20 years.

The bill creates a new crime of drive-by shooting when a person who is either in a motor vehicle or is close to a motor vehicle that they used to drive to the location, discharges a firearm at another person, motor vehicle, or dwelling, with the intent to injure. The penalty is imprisonment of between five and 20 years. Penalties for drive-by shootings that result in serious bodily injuries or are against a person under the age of 16 years old are also imprisonment of between five to 20 years. The crime of drive-by shooting is added to the list of statutes that are eligible to be prosecuted under the racketeering influenced and corrupt organizations (RICO) framework.

Author By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
House Judiciary Non-Civil
Committee:

Committee 03-22-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 63 Bonds and Recognizances; setting of bonds and schedules of bails; provide

Bill Summary: SB 63 prohibits a local jurisdiction from creating a bail schedule, or policy, that mandates releasing a person from jail on unsecured judicial release, and it modifies the definition of "bail" in the Code section.

The bill modifies the list of crimes under "bail restricted offenses" to include various crimes, including misdemeanors and second or subsequent violations of certain crimes. No person is eligible to be released on unsecured judicial release if they were charged with a bail-restricted offense. Those individuals are only eligible for release through the use of secured means, professional bondsmen, and approved property. Any person arrested for any offense who has previously been convicted of a felony within the past seven years is not eligible for an unsecured judicial release.

A surety is now released from liability if, prior to a judgment, the person at issue participates in an accountability court or enters into a pretrial release program. The standard that sureties are held to when determining whether they should be released from liability is changed from "should have known" to "had reason to know" that the principal used a false name. The surety is also not required to show that they acted with due diligence and used all practical means to secure the principal's attendance at court.

The bill increases the amount that bail recovery agents can charge for continuing legal education programs, the timeline for when sureties are relived from liability due to a failure to timely file a bench warrant and forfeiture of bond, and the amount of remission of a bond to be paid to the surety.

Author By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
House Judiciary Non-Civil
Committee:

Committee 03-22-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 68 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations; offense of dogfighting as racketeering activity; include

Bill Summary: SB 68 adds offenses under the statute outlawing dogfighting to the list of statutes that are eligible to be prosecuted under the racketeering influenced and corrupt organizations (RICO) framework.

Author By: Sen. Rick Williams (25th)
House Judiciary Non-Civil
Committee:

Committee 03-22-2023 Do Pass
Action:

SB 92 Prosecuting Attorneys Oversight Commission; create

Bill Summary: SB 92 creates the Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission (PAQC). The PAQC consists of a five-member investigative panel with the members consisting of those with various amounts of experience as a district attorney (DA) or solicitor-general (SG), and whom are appointed by the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the House, and Senate Committee on Assignments. The three-member panel will consist of members with experience as a DA or SG, as well as a former judge with prior experience as a DA or SG, who are appointed by the governor, a vote of the Senate, and a vote of the House. All members must be appointed by April 1, 2024. The PAQC will end its investigation into any DA or SG when that person is under indictment.

The bill contains various grounds for discipline by the PAQC, including mental or physical incapacity; willful misconduct in office; willful and persistent failure to carry out duties; conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude; conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice; and knowingly authorizing or permitting an assistant DA or assistant SG to commit any act constituting a ground for removal. The PAQC is allowed to entertain a complaint on various grounds, including when a DA or SG has a stated policy that demonstrates that the DA or SG categorically refuses to prosecute any type of an offense or offenses. No complaints can be filed prior to July 1, 2024.

Section 2 makes the act effective upon approval by the governor for appointment of members, while the rest of the bill is effective July 1, 2023.

Authored By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
House Judiciary Non-Civil
Committee:

Committee 03-22-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Motor Vehicles Committee**SB 110 'Back the Blue Act'; enact**

Bill Summary: SB 110 creates a Back the Blue Fund of which the revenue commissioner will be the custodian and administer to sheriffs' offices through the Georgia Sheriff's Association for the purpose of providing bonuses to deputy sheriffs and jailers. An option will be provided to contribute \$5 to the fund upon issuance or renewal of a motor vehicle car tag.

Authored By: Sen. Larry Walker III (20th)
House Motor Vehicles
Committee:

Committee 03-22-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee**SB 11 "Georgia Fights Terrorism Act"; enact**

Bill Summary: SB 11 grants original jurisdiction to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) for violation of laws concerning domestic, cyber, biological, chemical, and nuclear terrorism.

Authored By: Sen. John Albers (56th)
House Public Safety & Homeland Security
Committee:

Committee 03-22-2023 Do Pass
Action:

SB 37 Sheriffs; qualification requirements for the office of sheriff; revise

Bill Summary: SB 37 requires peace officers who want to qualify as candidates for the office of sheriff to be in good standing with the Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Council. The bill requires the executive director of POST Council to create and provide for an affidavit attesting to the person's compliance with the new standard for qualifying. The director, or their designee, must sign the affidavit and the person seeking to qualify must present the affidavit to elections officials in order to qualify. The bill allows a sheriff who serves in more than one court to receive salary for each court but prohibits the sheriff receiving more than two additional salaries.

The bill amends the statute relating to school bus cameras and school zone speed cameras to allow for

the Department of Revenue to remove penalty on a vehicle registration if the department receives adequate proof of payment of the fee and any late fee from the agent or governing body.

Authored By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
House Committee: Public Safety & Homeland Security
Committee Action: 03-22-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

SB 97 'Georgia Cyber Command Act'; Georgia Cyber Command Division under the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency; create

Bill Summary: SB 97 abolishes the Access to Cannabis Commission, and transfers existing licenses and all current contracts to the Georgia Department of Agriculture. The bill provides for all appeals to go to the Georgia State-wide Business Court. The bill updates the appointments to the joint committee for legislative oversight as well as licensing provisions. The number of licenses issued grow with the registry not to exceed 20 total for both Class 1 and Class 2. The department is required to issue a license to applicants who participated in previous bidding and who filed post-award administrative protests, and appealed those decisions to the appropriate courts.

The bill provides for an additional three conditions on the approved list for the Low THC Oil Registry, and provides for those persons removed or deleted from the registry to reapply free of charge by December 31, 2023.

Authored By: Sen. Jason Anavirtarte (31st)
House Committee: Public Safety & Homeland Security
Committee Action: 03-22-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Special Rules Committee

HR 547 House Study Committee on Rural Medical Personnel Recruitment; create

Bill Summary: HR 547 creates the House Study Committee on Rural Medical Personnel Treatment.

Authored By: Rep. Karen Mathiak (74th)
House Committee: Special Rules
Committee Action: 03-22-2023 Do Pass

Committee Meeting Schedule

This meeting schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meeting dates and times are subject to change. To keep up with the latest schedule, please visit www.legis.ga.gov to view all upcoming events.

Thursday - March 23, 2023

8:00 AM	Natural Resources & Environment Resource Management Subcommittee (House)	606 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
9:00 AM	CANCELED MOTOR VEHICLES COMMITTEE (House)	606 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
9:00 AM	RULES COMMITTEE (House)	341 CAP	VIDEO Agenda
10:00 AM	FLOOR SESSION (LD 38) (House)	House Chamber	VIDEO
1:00 PM	WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE (House)	406 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO